

June 2025 Focus

Bell County Staff

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Family & Community
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Meagan Cline

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Natural Resources

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Health

Floyd Ingram

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Agriculture

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4-H & Youth Development

Laila Romero

4-H Program Assistant

VACANT

BLT Extension Agent



Congratulations Newly Elected 2025-2026

Bell County Council Officers!

President— Victoria Canales

1st Vice— Kate Higgins

2nd Vice— Caroline Wood

Secretary—Ava Canales

Treasurer—Hartley Clayton

Reporter—Colton Payne

Parliamentarian— Piper Roland

Public Relations— Jennifer Hoelscher

Recreation Leaders—Avery Payne &
Paisley Bedrich

Congratulations to the Bell County 4-H Scholarship

Recipients!

Kaci Atchison

Jane Gauntt

Patrick Higgins

Abigail Marzo

Macy Morris

Madeline Rakowitz

James Steglich

Congratulations to the Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship

Recipients!

Jane Gauntt

Patrick Higgins

Macy Morris

Madeline Rakowitz

James Steglich

**Good luck to all of our
members competing at
Texas 4-H Round Up
in June!**



1605 N. Main, Room 102

Belton, TX 76513

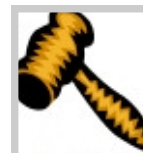
Phone: (254) 933-5305

Fax: (254) 933-5312

Website: <http://agrilife.org/bell4h/>



County Council & Ambassadors



2025-2026 Bell County 4-H Ambassadors Applications

The 4-H Ambassador Program aims to project a clear and accurate image of the Texas and Bell County 4-H Program. They help older youth develop leadership and communication skills, help the public understand the full scope of the 4-H program, and recruit new members from diverse backgrounds. Bell County 4-H Members must meet the following requirements to be considered for selection as a Bell County 4-H Ambassador: Be at least 14 years of age as of August 31st on the year of application. **Submit a complete application, due on June 2, 2025.** A formal interview will be given after all applications have been submitted. Members will be notified for interview times. Interviews will be formal dress.

RENEWAL OF AMBASSADORS:

Meet all activity requirements and minimum points by the **application deadline, June 2, 2025**, of the current 4-H year to be considered for renewal. (Recordbook is also a requirement and is due **June 2, 2025**)

Please turn in point sheets with renewal application!

For applications go to: <http://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-clubs-and-councils/ambassadors/>

County Council Officer Training

The Mandatory County Council Officer Training will take place sometime this summer! This will be at the Bell CEO from 9:00 am—11:00 am. Bring your calendar and community service ideas. There is not a good date that works for everyone so check your email and complete the google poll!

Bell County Ambassador Training

The Mandatory Bell County 4-H Ambassador Training will take place sometime this summer. There is not a good date that works for everyone so check your email and complete the google doc!

4-H Club Managers & Volunteers

4-H Club Chartering

Deadline: June 16, 2025

Club Managers will be submitting their club information either on 4-H Online or to Sheryl. You should have received an e-mail from Sheryl with the Charter Packet attached. Please don't hesitate to ask questions if you need help.

Membership Advisory Board FINANCE Meeting

When: TBD in August

Where: CEO

Time: 5:15 pm

This meeting is open to all parents and leaders! We encourage all Club Managers to attend and give their opinions on the Bell County 4-H program.

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

When: TBD in August

Where: CEO

Time: 6:00 pm

This meeting is open to all parents and leaders! We encourage all Club Managers to attend and give their opinions on the Bell County 4-H program.

Upcoming Events

Bell County 4-H Awards Banquet

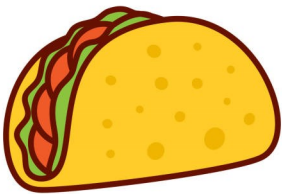
When: August 9, 2025

Where: Cadence Bank Center, Special Events Room

Theme: TACO'bout 4-H!

Time: 10:00 am

The annual 4-H Banquet is set for **Saturday, August 9, 2025** at the Cadence Bank Center, Special Events Room. We will need pictures for the General 4-H slides show. Please send any pictures from your club activities or 4-H contests to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu.



**Please RSVP to Jennifer.Thompson@ag.tamu.edu
or 254-933-5305 NO LATER THAN August 1st!**



Upcoming Events

Clover Kids

2025

June 21

July 11

June 21

Summer Camp

Deadline to turn in Clover Kid

Record Book to CEO

Clover Kids Cupcake Decorating
Workshop

Check out the Clover Kids website for more information on upcoming events:

<https://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/clover-kids/>

For questions, contact Dawn Brown at
bc4hcloverkids@yahoo.com

Bell County Record Books

Due: June 2, 2025 to the CEO

Where: CEO by 5pm

4-H Recordbooks are required for Bell County 4-H Ambassadors! Recordbooks are also a requirement to receive the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Star Award.

We will trade record books with Williamson counties on **Tuesday, June 10, 2025** for those who want to help us judge. We will be judging Williamson County books in Bell County while they judge our books in Williamson County.

District 8 Record Books will be judged on **July 10th** in McLennan County.



4-H Robotics Interest Meeting

When: Thursday, August 7th

Where: CEO

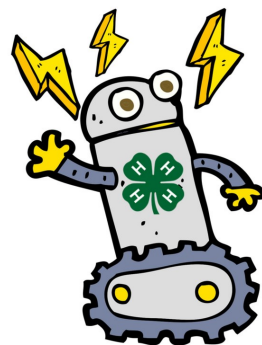
Time: 6:30 pm

Interested in the 4-H Robotic program? Join us on August 7th to learn more!
Must be in grades 3-12 for the 2025-2026 school year.

The Texas 4-H Robotics project engages youth in the dynamic world of robotics, fostering innovation and critical thinking as they design, build, and program machines to tackle real-world challenges.

In the 4-H Robotics project, members will learn a variety of skills related to robotics, coding, and engineering. Overall, the 4-H Robotics project offers a comprehensive learning experience that prepares youth for future careers in STEM fields, while also teaching them valuable life skills.

Reach out to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu if you have any questions.





Livestock Project News



Bell County 4-H Livestock Page

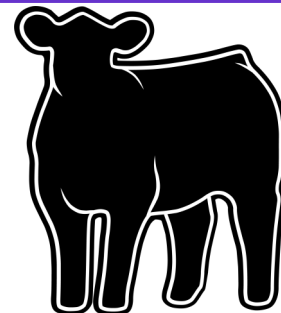
Exhibitors and their families can always find the latest Livestock Project information at:

<https://agrilife.org/bell4h/projects/4-h-livestock/>

Steer & Heifer Validation

**Monday, June 23rd from 7:00–10:00 AM & 4:00–6:00 PM
at the Cadence Bank Center**

REGISTERED HEIFERS: The deadline for ownership, transfer, and registration for Registered Breeding Heifers is June 30, 2025. **A color, PDF copy of the original registration papers should be emailed to your County Extension Agent (Meagan.Cline@ag.tamu.edu) or Ag Teacher by June 30, 2025.**



1. Heifers already validated do NOT have to be revalidated. Heifers ONLY need to be revalidated if they change breed or ownership.

2. If your heifer has a previously existing 840 premise ID tag, there will be retag form/process, in coordination with TAHC, to remove the tag and replace with an official Texas Validation 840 tag.

Contact Meagan Cline if you have any questions

State Fair of Texas Sheep & Goat Validation

Wednesday, June 18th from 8:30 AM–5:00 PM at the Extension Office



BREEDING SHEEP & GOATS: All Registered and Commercial Breeding Sheep and Goats must be validated to be eligible to show at the State Fair of Texas. Once validated, Breeding Sheep and Goat projects will be eligible for 3 years unless a change in ownership occurs. The deadline for ownership, transfer, and registration is June 30, 2025. A color, PDF copy of the original registration papers should be emailed to (Meagan.Cline@ag.tamu.edu) by June 30, 2025.

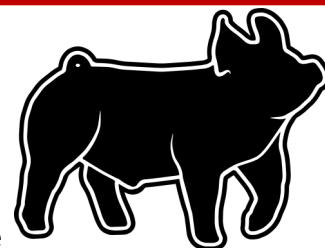
Lambs and goats validated during the 2025 State Fair Validation Period will be eligible for 2026 Spring Major Shows. Market animals validated for the 2025 State Fair will carryover for 2026 Spring Major Shows. Once validated, the project must stay in the care of the exhibitor that project is validated to; if the exhibitor chooses to sell the project to a new exhibitor, the new exhibitor must revalidate the project within the next validation period. Please see the Validation Guidelines for more details.

Contact Meagan Cline if you have any questions

State Fair of Texas & Heart O' Texas Fair Swine Validation By appointment at the exhibitor or school barn

All Registered and Commercial Gilts must be validated for the State Fair of Texas and Heart O' Texas Fair.

REGISTERED GILTS: The date of ownership, transfer, and registration must all be on or before June 30, 2025. **A color, PDF copy of the original registration papers should be emailed to your County Extension Agent (Meagan.Cline@ag.tamu.edu) or Ag Teacher by June 30, 2025.**



Contact Meagan Cline if you have any questions



Livestock Project News



District 8 4-H Horse Show

Date: June 16-17, 2025 **Location:** Cadence Bank Center, ELC Arena

Stalls are available on a first-come first-serve basis. **Stall fees will be paid to the Expo Center staff at time of arrival. Stalls will be available starting at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, June 16th through 10:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 17th.** RV spots available on a first come, first serve basis.

Good luck to our exhibitors!

Contact Sheryl or Meagan if you have any questions.

<http://agrilife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/horse-show/>

Bell-Milam Youth Agribusiness Tour

Save the date Wednesday, July 9th for the 2025 Bell-Milam Youth Agribusiness Tour! This will be the 8th year of our annual tour sponsored by Capital Farm Credit! Each of the stops will feature a facet of agricultural production and business. Youth will have the opportunity to connect with local producers and see the impact of agriculture in our communities. The 2025 tour stops have yet to be released. Online sign up will be available June 11, 2025. The link will be released in the weekly 4-H email blast that goes out every Monday. To sign up for the tour, participants must be a member of Bell or Milam County 4-H and in 6th - 12th grade. The first ten applicants from each county will be accepted. Youth must have an interest in agriculture.

**If you would like more information about this tour,
please email Floyd.Ingram@ag.tamu.edu to be added to the mailing list!**

Bell County Show Cattle Clinic

Date: July 8, 2025

Location: Cadence Bank Center

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

Join us for the Bell County Show Cattle Clinic on **July 8, 2025** at the Cadence Bank Center! We have a great guest speaker lined up, as well as door prizes and dinner! This program is **FREE** to attend for all 4-H and FFA families.

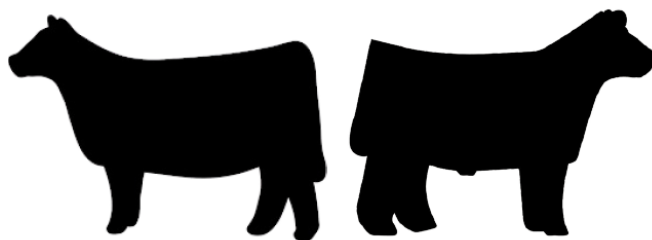
Speaker—David Groschke

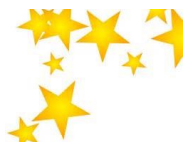
Topics: Selection, Health, Nutrition, Daily Care, and
Showmanship

Please RSVP to the Bell County Extension Office by June 24th!

Phone: 254-933-5305

Email meagan.cline@ag.tamu.edu





Awards



ADULT LEADER AWARDS

Bell County 4-H volunteer leaders and Bell County 4-H County Council will solicit nominations and vote to select two individuals to be recognized at the Annual 4-H Banquet for “Distinguished Service.” One will be chosen by the MAB and one chosen by 4-H members. 4-H volunteer leaders who are chosen for this award include outstanding club managers, leaders, project leaders, workshop leaders and volunteer leaders who go above and beyond their leader capabilities.

OUTSTANDING LEADER AWARD- The Outstanding Leader Award chosen from the 4-H member requires an essay no longer than 1 page. **The ESSAYS ARE DUE June 2, 2025!** The essay should include the following:

Name of Person Making Nomination

Leader Nominated

Date

Why do you think this leader is an outstanding leader?

What does this leader do that is outstanding?

How has this leader helped you?

How has this leader helped others?

Nominations should be emailed to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu

Bell County 4-H Awards

All 4-H members applying for awards (Gold, Silver or Bronze Star; Rookie, Honor Roll, All-Star Letterman; Danforth, Senior Awards, Outstanding Community Service) must submit the appropriate paperwork and applications by **June 2, 2025**. Record books for county competition will be due on **June 2, 2025**.

Awards age based on 4-H Grade as of August 31, 2024

Graduating seniors for the 2024 year, who are members of 4-H, may apply to receive a Senior Award, to be presented at the Bell County 4-H Awards Banquet. Seniors must have been active and meet the requirements listed on the application.

Other descriptions and awards information is available on the Bell County 4-H Website by going to:

<http://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/4-h-awards/>

4-H Award Interviews

When: June 11, 2025

Where: CEO

We will schedule interview times for those members that applied to receive an award. Interviews will take place before 5:00 pm.



Summer Fun Activities



District 8 Leadership Lab (Surge)

For those members that have registered for this camp, we will be traveling to camp in a rental suburban!

Tentative Travel Schedule:

June 24—Meet at the CEO no later than 10:30 am

Eat lunch in Brownwood, arrive at camp by 2:00 pm (ish)

June 26—Depart from camp around 11:00 am. Return to CEO no later than 2:00 pm.

Theme: This year's theme for SURGE is "4-H Olympics." We invite you to join as we strive for gold!

Dance theme: Tuesday-Medal Night (gold, bronze, silver medals) Dress as your preferred medal
Wednesday-Olympic Podium/Awards Night. Dress in your fanciest awards show attire

Service project: We will be making tissue paper floral arrangements. If you have pipe cleaners or tissue paper to share, please bring it with you.

Dress Code:

–Items not allowed: tops with spaghetti straps, halter type tops, shirts that reveal the midriff, excessively loose-fitting pants or jeans, short shorts or skirts, clothing advertising or referencing alcohol, drugs, violence or having sexual content.

– Two-piece swimsuits are allowed but should adequately cover all body parts.

– Campers will be given 1 warning about dress code violations and will then be provided an opportunity to change or have their parent retrieve them from camp.

Reach out to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu if you have any questions.

Southeast District 8 County Camp

For those members that have registered for this camp, we will be traveling to camp in a rental car!

Tentative Travel Schedule:

Friday, July 11th – Arrive at the CEO no later than 10:00am. Eat lunch on the way, arrive at camp by 1:00 pm (ish). Please send lunch money with your kiddo.

Sunday, July 13th - Depart from camp around 10:00 am. Return to CEO no later than 12:30 pm. Meagan will have everyone text their parent when we leave.

Parents! Check your email for all the details!

Reach out to Meagan.Cline@ag.tamu.edu if you have any questions.



Summer Fun Activities



~Summer Workshop Guidelines~

- Registration open to 4-H members
- Please make sure the participants arrive on time
- Participants must be picked up promptly at the conclusion of the workshop
 - Please adhere to RSVP deadlines
- Cell phones will be prohibited, participants will be able to check their phones on breaks and at the conclusion of the program.

Food Workshops

Cupcake Decorating Workshop

When: June 21

Where: Bell CEO

Time: 9:00-11:00 am

RSVP by June 16th at 254-933-5305.

Clover Kids Cupcake Decorating Workshop

When: June 21

Where: Bell CEO

Time: 1:00-3:00 pm

RSVP by June 16th at 254-933-5305.

Cookie Decorating Workshop

When: July 15

Where: Bell CEO

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

RSVP by July 10th at 254-933-5305.

Creative Desserts Workshop

When: July 31

Where: Bell CEO

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

RSVP by July 28th at 254-933-5305.



Summer Fun Activities



Summer Sewing Series

Fleece Tie Blankets Workshop

When: May 31

Where: Bell CEO

Time: 10:00 am –4:00 pm

What to Bring: Two yards of two coordinating pieces of fleece, sharp scissors, ruler and lunch!

A parent MUST be present for all 8-12 year old participants.

RSVP by May 27th at 254-933-5305.

Simple Pillow Workshop

When: June 14

Where: Bell CEO

Time: 10:00 am –4:00 pm

What to Bring: 3/4 yard of two coordinating cotton fabric, coordinating thread, sharp scissors and 18 inch square billow blank. Bring your own lunch.

A parent MUST be present for all 8-12 year old participants.

RSVP by June 9th at 254-933-5305.

Apron Workshop

When: June 28

Where: Bell CEO

Time: 10:00 am –4:00 pm

What to Bring: 1 1/2 yard cotton fabric, coordinating thread, sharp scissors and lunch.

A parent MUST be present for all 8-12 year old participants.

RSVP by June 23rd at 254-933-5305.

Quilting Workshop

When: June 30 & July 1

Location: Bell CEO

Time: 8:30 am-12:30 pm

Sewing machines will be provided. However, participants are welcome to bring their own!

RSVP by June 23rd at 254-933-5305.



Summer Fun Activities



Other Fun Workshops!

Safe Sitter

When: June 11, 2025 **Location:** Bell CEO **Time:** 9:00 am—12:00 pm
Participants will learn: Safety Skills, Child Care Skills, First Aid & Rescue, and Business Skills
RSVP by May 30th at 254-933-5305.

Floral Design Workshop

When: July 2, 2025 **Location:** Bell CEO **Time:** 9:00 am—1:00 pm
Must be grades 9-12 to participate
Workshop presented by national award-winning floral designer, Norman Northern.
RSVP by June 27th at 254-933-5305.

End of Year Summer Bash!

When: Sunday, June 29, 2025

Location: Summer Fun Waterpark

Time: 6:30-9:30 pm

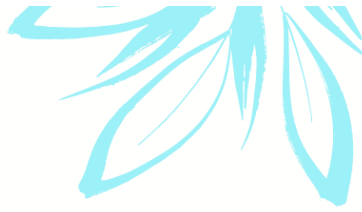
~FREE Admission~

Bring your friends and your family! EVERYONE is welcome!

Please bring your own cooler for snacks and drinks! Concession stands will not be available.

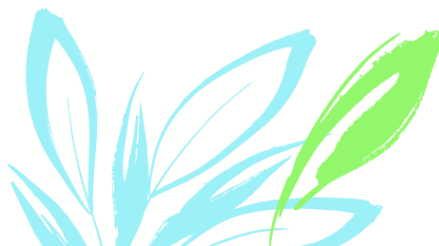
Thank you to our MAB members for providing this awesome end of year party for our 4-H members again this year!





10 Reasons to Attend 4-H County Council Meetings This Coming Year

- **Community Connection:** Engage with fellow 4-H members and build lasting relationships.
- **Leadership Opportunities:** Take on leadership roles and develop skills that will benefit you in the future.
- **Educational Programs:** Participate in workshops and programs.
- **Service Projects:** Community service projects that make a positive impact on your community.
- **Event Planning:** Help plan and organize events, gaining experience in teamwork and time management.
- **Recognition:** Receive recognition for your achievements and contributions to the community.
- **Decision Making:** Have a voice in the decisions that affect the direction and activities of your 4-H council.
- **Personal Growth:** Challenge yourself to step out of your comfort zone and grow as an individual.
- **Fun:** Enjoy a variety of fun activities and events that make participation in the council meetings enjoyable.
- **Networking:** Meetings offer a chance to connect with other 4-H members fostering a sense of community.



Important Dates

June 2025

June 2: Bell Co. 4-H Ambassador Application due
June 2: 4-H Recordbooks due
June 2: Adult Leader Award Nominations due
June 2: 4-H Award Applications due
June 10: Recordbook Judging Day
June 11: Safe Sitter Workshop
June 11: 4-H Award Interviews
June 11: Bell Milam Youth Ag Tour Sign Up Day
June 14: Simple Pillow Workshop
June 16: 4-H Club Chartering Deadline
June 16-17: District 8 Horse Show, Belton
June 18: Summer Lamb and Goat Validation, CEO
June 21: Clover Kids Summer Camp
June 21: Cupcake Decorating Workshop
June 21: Clover Kid Cupcake Decorating Workshop
June 23: Cattle Validation, Cadence Bank Center
June 24-26: D8 Leadership Lab (Surge), Brownwood
June 28: Apron Workshop
June 30: Quilting Workshop

July 2025

July 1: Quilting Workshop
July 2: Floral Design Workshop
July 8: Bell County Show Cattle Clinic
July 9: Bell Milam Youth Ag Tour
July 11-13: SE D8 County Camp, Palestine
July 15: Cookie Decorating Workshop
July 31: Creative Desserts Workshop

August 2025

August 1: 4-H Awards Banquet RSVP Deadline
August 7: 4-H Robotics Interest Meeting
August 9: 4-H Awards Banquet

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

BELL COUNTY
4-H NEWSLETTER

Bell County Extension
1605 N. Main Room 102
Belton, TX 76513
Phone: 254-933-5305
Fax: 254-933-5312



Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

Everything will be posted on the Bell County 4-H website

<http://agrilife.org/bell4h/>